

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

KOBAYASHI et al.

Serial No. 10/730,904

Filed: December 10, 2003

For: PIEZOELECTRIC DEVICE FOR INJECTOR



Atty. Ref.: 461-154

Group: 2834

Examiner: Dougherty, T.

* * * * *

December 27, 2004

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, *inter alia*, "while some art (e.g. Kawazoe et al. US 6,563,687 and Yamada et al. US 6,663,015) shows the claimed invention, this art has a filing date after that of the applicants, consequently the applicable prior art fails to show or fairly suggest...." Applicant agrees that both Kawazoe et al (U.S. filing date of December 13, 2001) and Yamada et al (U.S. filing date of June 5, 2001) do not qualify as prior art with respect to the claims of the present application. It is therefore not deemed necessary to discuss these references. Applicant notes that the named assignee of both of these references is Denso Corporation, the recorded assignee of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond Y. Mah".

Raymond Y. Mah
Reg. No. 41,426

RYM:sl
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4044
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100